

Mounties Contact Canada's 'NSA'

OTTAWA, Canada (CPS) — United States student organizations aren't the only ones on this continent that have had contact with intelligence organizations, according to the head of the Canadian Union of Students (CUS).

CUS president Doug Ward has admitted that for the past 15 years leaders of his association have had annual interviews with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Canadian University Press reports that no money was offered in exchange for information gained from CUS.

"I am disturbed at the approach the mountie use—seeking interviews on a personal basis with people who are obviously selected for the positions they hold," Ward said.

The Canadian student leader described as "friendly" an interview he had last summer with an RCMP official at CUS headquarters. A request from Ward that the talk be "considered public and non-confidential" was met by the Mounties.

Subversion in Canada

"In addition to expressing interest in receiving information on the traditional topic—Eastern European student politics—the officer mentioned that he was particularly interested in knowing about subversion in Canada," Ward said.

The CUS president stated he "refused to involve myself or CUS in such activities. Since then there has been no further communication" from the Mounties.

Grants from the CIA-linked Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs of New York (FYSA) have been received by CUS. Ward said the funds amounted to only \$3,000, and that no CUS official had any knowledge of FYSA's alleged connection with the U.S. intelligence organization.

Asked Pearson

In relation to the FYSA grant, CUS has asked Canadian Prime Minister Lester Pearson to "strongly protest the covert intrusion of the CIA," into Canadian student affairs. CUS has also requested the Prime Minister to provide "assurance that the RCMP is not engaged in any similar op-

erations."

Prime Minister Pearson told the House of Commons that the Canadian government is reluctant to register a formal complaint with the United States over CIA involvement in Canadian organizations.

Pearson said the small amount CUS had received from FYSA, and the lack of influence by FYSA on CUS activities, made the situation such that further action wouldn't be warranted.

The prime minister said that, outside of the FYSA grant to CUS, he had "no knowledge" of any CIA-related funding of Canadian groups. He also said there was no evidence of money given to Canadian organizations by "any other foreign power."